

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended herein. Claims 12-19 and 23 were previously withdrawn, without prejudice. Claims 1-11, 20-22, and 24-25 are now pending in the Application. No new matter has been added. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Pursuant to a telephone interview regarding the proposed amendments to claims 1 and 20 held on or about August 10, 2007, the Examiner indicated that the amendment describing the shape of the strip as "generally rectangular" distinguishes claims 1 and 20 over Honer '263 and that the amendment clarifying that the pocket does not pass completely through the strip distinguishes over Lind '188. The indication of allowable subject matter is greatly appreciated, and Claims 1 and 20 have been amended as proposed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments place the application in condition for allowance. The amended claims avoid the rejections set forth in the last Office Action because they recite the subject matter indicated allowable as discussed in the telephone interview. The amended claims do not raise the issue of new matter because the subject matter therein has already been claimed and examined. The amendment does not present additional claims. Nor do the amended claims present new issues requiring further consideration or search, because the subject matter therein was previously claimed and examined. Furthermore, the claims have been amended as recommended by the Office. For these reasons Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully continues to traverse the rejections. Nevertheless, the claims have been amended to advance prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to file another application (e.g., a divisional application) relating to any claim.

No Fee Required

No fee is deemed required for the entry of these amendments. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fee associated with this Response and any other fee due to the Deposit Account No. 10-0637 of Walker & Jocke.

Conclusion

The undersigned will be happy to discuss any aspect of the Application by telephone at the Office's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

/nlr/

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